

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims 6 – 20 will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in the application. Claims 1 – 5 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claim 6 has been amended. Claims 11 – 20 have been added.

Listing of Claims

1. – 5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A method Method~~ for streaming real time data from a storage medium containing layered coding formats, the method comprising the steps:

a) receiving at a data read-out device commands from one or more applications ~~commands~~ initiating at least two data streams and indicating a demanded resolution;

b) retrieving information regarding coding formats available on from said storage medium and ~~regarding a~~ maximum read-out data rate supported by a **said** data readout device;

c) retrieving from said data read-out device a maximum read-out data rate supported by said data readout device,

d) selecting a compression format for each data stream on the basis of said received commands, and said retrieved coding format information, so that a collective data rate of the sum of data streams does not exceed said maximum read-out data rate **supported by said data readout device;** and

e) sending streaming requests corresponding to said selected compression formats to said data readout device.

7. (Original) Method according to claim 6, characterized in that said selection is executed according to a predetermined priority of said applications.

8. (Original) Method according to claim 6, characterized in that each of said initiating commands carries a tag indicating a level of priority and said selection is executed according to said level of priority indicated by said tag.

9. (Original) Method according to claim 6, characterized in that it comprises the step checking available system resources and said selection further takes into account said system resources.

10. (Original) Method according to claim 6, characterized in that it comprises the steps reducing said maximum read out data rate by a value taking into account a processing time said data readout device requires for switching between the accesses to said at least two data streams, and providing the result for said selection.

11. (New) An apparatus for streaming real time data from a storage medium containing layered coding formats, the apparatus comprising:

a) a data readout device

b) a selection means for selecting compression formats for at least two data streams such that the sum of the data rates of the at least two data streams does not exceed a maximum read-out data rate of the data readout device, said compression formats being selected in accordance with:

i) initiating commands received from one or more applications, wherein said initiating commands initiate at least two data streams stored on said storage medium and further indicate a demanded resolution,

ii) coding format information retrieved from said storage medium,
and

iii) a maximum read-out data rate supported by said data readout device

c) means for sending a streaming request corresponding to said selected compression formats for said at least two data streams;

wherein said data readout device is arranged to receive said streaming request from said selection means, to read out data from said storage medium and to output corresponding data streams according to said request.

12. (New) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said selection means is arranged to access a predetermined priority information of said applications and selects said compression format further according to said predetermined priority information.

13. (New) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said selection means is arranged to interpret a tag carried by each of said initiating commands indicating a level of priority and selects said compression format further according to said level of priority.

14. (New) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said selection means is arranged to check available system resources and to select said compression format further taking into account said system resources.

15. (New) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said selection means comprises means arranged to reduce said maximum read out data rate by a value taking into account a processing time said data readout device requires for switching between the accesses to said at least two data streams, and to provide the result for said selection.

16. (New) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the storage medium is an optical disc.
17. (New) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said selection means further selects said compression formats in accordance with pre-determined priority information associated with at least one of said at least two data streams.
18. (New) An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein said pre-determined priority information is pre-stored in a look-up table.
19. (New) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said initiating commands includes pre-determined priority information.
20. (New) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said selection means for selecting compression formats for at least two data streams adjusts the data rates of the at least two data streams dynamically dependent upon the instantaneous use of disc resources by said one or more applications.